REMARKS

Claims 1-4, and 6-23 are now pending in the application. Claim 5 is cancelled herein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

OBJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.75(C)

Claims 11 and 19-23 stand objected under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from another multiple dependent claim. The claims have been amended herein and no multiple dependent claim currently depends from another multiple dependent claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Each of Claims 16 and 18 have been amended to depend from claim 14 which recites "a protective layer." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that each of Claims 16 and 18 have proper antecedent basis for "the protective layer" recited therein. Additionally Claim 18 has been amended in order to clarify what portion following "or" differs from that preceding the "or". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102;

Claims 1, 2, and 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Morizumi (JP2003094845). Claims 1-4, 7-10, 12 and 17 stand rejected under 35, U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Masafumi (JP 08-085269). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Applicant has amended each of independent claims Claims 1, 2 and 10 to incorporate the language of Claim 5 which has not been rejected by these rejections. Applicants, therefore, respectfully assert that these rejections have been overcome.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masafumi (JP 08-085269) in view of Patel (U.S. Pat. No. 5,639,447). Claims 6, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masafumi (JP 08-085269) in view of Ohnishi (U.S. Pat. No. 5,928,989). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to a printing method and a thermal transfer sheet for use in the printing method. The technical field of the present invention is "printing". On the other hand, Patel relates to a quick-drying nail polish composition in view of Claim 1, the section "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" in column 1, and the ABSTRACT of the disclosure. Thus, the technical field of the Patel's invention is a "makeup or cosmetic product". Therefore, Patel is irrelevant to the present invention as prior art since Patel is non-analogous art and clearly differs from the present invention in technical filed. Accordingly, these rejections do not provide a disclosure or suggestion

of Applicants invention as defined by the claims to include "a fluorescent agent or a fluorescent brightening agent." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are patentable over these rejections.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:_____March 6, 2008_____   By: _____
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